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WASHINGTON, July 5.—The next voice of America to be heard in the ultra-modern council rooms of the United Nations may well be hurling Shakespearean and Biblical thunder at our enemies as only John L. Lewis can—for the hard-headed and mellifluous leader of the nation's coal diggers has been asked by the White House to help launch a propaganda offensive across the world as a U. S. delegate to the U. N.

Or it may well be that the leonine, gray-haired president of the United Mineworkers Union may soon be stuffing his pockets with travel tickets which will carry him around the world as the personal spokesman for the President of the U. S. With the rank of Ambassador.

Neither is too improbable. Either, or both, make down-to-earth sense. One or both is going to occur soon—if current White House plans aren't changed. That is the word in the highest administration circles.

THERE ARE TWO parts to this new Eisenhower-Lewis formula for restoring some of our vanishing prestige around the world—especially with the free workers everywhere.

One is the final realization that we must act swiftly in full recognition of the fact that the laboring men of Asia, Latin America and Europe no longer consider us the Great White Father.



Victor Riesel

Inside LABOR

By VICTOR RIESEL

The other is the realization that one man, far above all other labor leaders, commands the imagination, respect and attention of labor in countries abroad—the rip-roaring, outspoken John L. Lewis.

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THESE REALITIES were faced and woven together by President Eisenhower and his advisers recently. That's part of the background of the now famous Eisenhower-Lewis dinner.

But here's the behind-the-scenes story of an earlier dinner-conference:

When Secretary of State Dulles returned from his recent European trip, he reported to Eisenhower that this nation's prestige was slipping away very fast indeed among the working people who cast the balance-of-power votes in foreign elections.

All this has resulted in squeaky majorities going to our friends in shaky cabinets abroad. Then someone in that conference asked, Who can put America's story over to labor across the globe?

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DULLES' ANSWER, based on what he had heard, was—only John L. Lewis!

This report began filtering through the Monday-morning quarterback session held by the President and his aides. Ike began hearing similar reports from Allan Dulles, head of the Central Intelligence Agency, the

cloak-and-dagger branch of brother John Foster's department, and from former CIA chief, Undersecretary of State Walter Bedell Smith.

One of the men sitting in on the Monday skull sessions was C. D. Jackson, the President's psychological warfare chief. He contacted Lewis and arranged for the Mineworkers' leader to come quietly to the White House. Lewis dined there with Jackson and other Administration leaders some three weeks ago, just before the better known banquet with the President himself.

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THE OLD WARRIOR heard what the Government had just discovered—that the name of John Lewis still had the great dramatic impact of the days when he launched the CIO and made global headlines.

Then Lewis spoke. Men listen when the great bass voice rolls out—even those who have fought him through the years. And Eisenhower's "psyke war" strategists liked what they heard. Now the report from those circles is that it may take weeks, perhaps longer, until the machinery is welded together, but they are talking in terms of giving "The Man of the Mines" a new title—Mr. Ambassador.

Then when the enemy sounds off, be it in the U.N. or on the flaming continents abroad, the most famous labor voice of all will be talking right back from behind a microphoned desk on which will be a little placard.

THAT PLACARD will say "United States." The voice will be the voice of John L. Lewis. And we will be evenly matched for once.

Follow Victor Riesel in the Mirror every Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Sunday.